

## KANGAROO COURTS

Now let me say a few words about the so-called military commissions. I have a little handout out there called "Kangaroo Courts." It would take me a whole law review article to go through all the problems with military commissions. I have been interviewed quite extensively. I have some comments on it in my book. Professor Jordan Paust, a friend and colleague of mine at the University of Houston, just published an article in the Michigan Journal of International Law which I would encourage you to read. It goes through the major problems. But basically there are two treaties on point here that are being violated at a minimum.

First, the Third Geneva Convention of 1949. I will not go through all of the arguments here but it is clear that just about everyone down in Guantanamo (not counting the guys who were picked up in Bosnia and basically kidnapped) but all those apprehended over in Afghanistan and Pakistan would qualify as prisoners of war within the meaning of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949, and therefore have all the rights of prisoners of war within the meaning of that convention. Right now however, as you know, all those rights are being denied. This is a serious war crime. And unfortunately President Bush, Jr. himself has incriminated himself under the Third Geneva Convention by signing the order setting up these military commissions. Not only has he incriminated himself under the Third Geneva Convention, but he has incriminated himself under the U.S. War Crimes Act of 1996 or so, signed into law by President Clinton and making it a serious felony for any United States citizen either to violate or order the violation of the Four Geneva Conventions of 1949.

## THE FEDERALIST SOCIETY CABAL

I am not personally criticizing President Bush. He is not a lawyer. He was terribly advised, criminally mis-advised, by the cabal of Federalist Society lawyers that the Bush administration has assembled at the White House and the Department of Injustice under Ashcroft. President Bush, Jr., by signing this order, has opened himself up to prosecution anywhere in the world for violating the Third Geneva Convention, and certainly if there is evidence to believe that any of these individuals have been tortured, which is grave breach, let alone at the end of the day executed. So this is a very serious matter.

I did not vote for President Bush, Jr. But I certainly think it is a tragedy that these Federalist Society lawyers got the President of the United States of America, who is not a lawyer, to sign the order that would incriminate him under the Geneva Conventions and United States Domestic Criminal Law. This is what happened.

## JEOPARDIZING U.S. ARMED FORCES

Moreover, by us stating we will not apply the Third Geneva Convention to these people we opened up United States armed forces to be denied protection under the Third Geneva Convention. And as you know, we now have U.S. armed forces in operation in Afghanistan, Georgia, the Philippines, in Yemen and perhaps in Iraq. Basically Bush's position will be jeopardizing their ability to claim prisoner of war status. All that has to happen is our adversaries say they are unlawful combatants and we will not give you prisoner of war status. The Third Geneva Convention is one of the few protections U.S. armed forces have when they go into battle. Bush, Jr. and his Federalist Society lawyers just pulled the rug out from under them.

## U.S. POLICE STATE

In addition the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights clearly applies down in Guantanamo. It applies any time in-

dividuals are under the jurisdiction of the United States of America. Guantanamo is a colonial enclave, I will not go through its status any further. But clearly those individuals are subject to our jurisdiction and have the rights set forth therein—which are currently being denied.

If and when many of these Bush, Ashcroft, Gonzalez police state practices make their way to the U.S. Supreme Court, we have to consider that a five to four majority of the Supreme Court gave the presidency to Bush, Jr. What is going to stop that same five to four majority from giving Bush, Jr. a police state? The only thing that is going to stop it is the people in this room.

# RECOGNIZING WATERFORD OUR LADY OF THE LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

## HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Michigan Class D State Championship Girls' Basketball team from Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes High School. On March 19, 2011, the Lakers sealed a 53-35 victory over the Bark-River Harris Broncos, clinching their second consecutive Class D State Championship under Head Coach Steve Robak.

After winning the East Division of the Detroit Catholic High School League and claiming their third consecutive CHSL C-D Division Championship, the Lakers began district play by crushing West Bloomfield Frankel Jewish Academy's Jaguars 72-4. Our Lady of the Lakes rolled over the Clarkston Everest Collegiate Lady Mountaineers in the district final, 64-20.

Moving on to regional match-ups, Our Lady of the Lakes slipped by Marine City Cardinal Mooney by a score of 43-41. The Lakers shut down Southfield Christian, 51-43 in the regional final to move on to state quarterfinals where they defeated the Bay City All Saints Cougars 61-36. The Trojans of Central Lake fell to the Blue and White 52-41 on March 17 to clear the Lakers path to the Class D Final. Facing Bark-Harris in the final game of the season, the Our Lady of the Lakes press held the Broncos in check giving the Lakers the right to raise high the Class D State Championship trophy.

Mr. Speaker, with a season record of 23-5-0, the 2011 Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes Girls' Basketball team deserves to be recognized for their determination, achievement, spirit and effort. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Lakers for obtaining this spectacular title and in honoring their devotion to our community and country.

# HONORING COUNCIL MEMBER HAL MALKIN

## HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hal Malkin and his 17 years of public service to the peo-

ple of La Mirada, California. Hal and his wife Barbara have called La Mirada home since 1972. Hal began the first of his five terms on the La Mirada City Council in 1994.

Since taking office in 1994, Hal has worked tirelessly to ensure La Mirada remains safe for its residents and economically vibrant for its business community. Under his tenure, La Mirada has seen the creation of various city resources such as the Frontier Community Building, the La Mirada Resource Center, and the widely popular SPLASH! Complex. While many cities throughout Southern California have felt the impact of a struggling economy, La Mirada has remained fiscally sound without sacrificing important community services, due in large part to Hal's foresight. It's frankly no surprise La Mirada was listed by CNN and others as one of the "Best Place to Live" in 2007.

Over the years, Hal's civic involvement has extended into his community where he proudly served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Rio Hondo Chapter of the American Red Cross and as a member of the Executive Committee for 9 years.

As an active leader in his community, Hal has received several awards including Outstanding Faculty Member, Cerritos College 2002-2003; Member of the Year, La Mirada Chamber of Commerce; and the Parent-Teacher Association Honorary Service Award.

Hal has continuously demonstrated his dedication to his profession, community, and family. Today, Hal continues to open the doors of the educational opportunity to local youth as an Associate Professor and Department Chair of the Pharmacy Technology Program at Cerritos College.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Councilmember Hal Malkin for his many years of service and dedication to the City of La Mirada and the community. Let us wish him and his family the very best in retirement.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 194, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

# IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2011 BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET FOR CUB SCOUT PACK 976

## HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2011 Blue and Gold Banquet for Cub Scout Pack 976.

The Boy Scouts were founded in the United States on February 8, 1910 by William D. Boyce when he incorporated the Boy Scouts of America. The following year, the BSA adopted the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. After over one hundred years of scouting, these founding principles have guided over